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Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 SCS-06 CA-01 HA-05
PPT-01 VO-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
EA-10 TRSE-00 SES-02 /102 W
----------086314 141259Z /46
R 140645Z AUG 78
FM AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA
USLO RIYADH
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6424

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CGEN, US, SA
SUBJ: CONVERSATION WITH SENIOR ARAMCO OFFICIAL

1. DURING THE CONGEN'S USUAL WEEKLY MEETING WITH SENIOR ARAMCO ADMINISTRATORS ON AUGUST 13, SEVERAL TOPICS OF MUTUAL INTEREST WERE DISCUSSED. ONE ARAMCO OFFICIAL INDICATED THAT HIS COMPANY HAD FOUND WHAT THEY CONSIDERED A VALUABLE NEW CONTACT AT MIN INT RIYADH. THIS MAN, ABDUL RAHMAN JAMMAZ, IS AN ASSISTANT DEPUTY MINISTER OF INTERIOR WHO APPARENTLY HAS ASSUMED MANY OF DR. AL-AWAJI'S DUTIES DURING HISCURRENT ABSENCE. ARAMCO WAS ABLE TO RESOLVE SEVERAL VERY SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES THEY WERE EXPERIENCING WITH SAUDI VISAS FOR THEIR EMPLOYEES AND CONTRACTORS DURING A SINGLE EVENING MEETING. ARAMCO OFFICIALS ALSO PRESSED JAMMAZ FOR FAVORABLE MIN INT CONSIDERATION OF EXTENSION OF VISITOR VISAS TO 90 DAY VALIDITY AS WAS THE CASE FORMERLY. MR. JAMMAZ ALSO COMMENTED ON ARAMCO'S CURRENT DIFFICULTIES WITH NON-MUSLIM EXPATRIATE EMPLOYEES UNDER SENTENCE OF LASHING
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FOR MINOR ALCOHOL OFFENSES, INCLUDING JOHN WILSON AN AMCIT OFFENDZNASE CASE IS CURRENTLY BEING APPEALED BY EMBASSY JIDDA. JAMMAZ COMMENTED IT WAS NEVER THE INTENTION OF THE CENTRAL GOVERN-MENT TO ATTACH LASHES TO THE SENTENCE'S OF PERSONS CONVICTED OF POSSESSION OR INTOXICATION, BUT THAT THE INTENT WAS, AND STILL IS, TO

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ADMINISTER LASHES TO THOSE FOUND GUILTY OF THE SALE
OR MANUFACTURE OF ALCOHOL. HE ADDED THAT NO
EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE FOR THOSE CONVICTED OF
SELLING OR MANUFACTURING.
FOR RIYADH: USLO MAY WISH TO PAY COURTESY CALL
ON JAMMAZ AND DEVELOP HIS VIEWS OF EMERGING MIN
INT POLICIES REGARDING LASHING OF NON-MUSLIM
ADD OTHER TOPICS OF CONCERN TO AMERICAN
EXPATRIATES IN THE KINGDOM.

2. ARAMCO GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS OFFICIALS
ALSO NOTE THAT TWO FILIPIONO EMPLOYEES WERE RECENTLY
LASHED IN AL-KHOBAR, THE CITY ADJACENT TO THE
DHAHRAN AREA. THESE FILIPINOS WERE INVOLVED
IN A BURGLARY CASE.
BECAUSE IT APPEARED THAT AMPUTATION WAS BEING
CONSIDERED AS THE ONLY PROPER PUNISHMENT FOR
SUCH THEFT, ARAMCO HAD MOVED QUICKLY TO DEFUSE
THE SITUATION THROUGH APPROACHES TO THE THREE
JUDGES HEARING THE CASE. COMPANY OFFICIALS
WERE CONFIDENT THAT FOLLOWING THESE LASHES, ONLY
JAIL TERMS WOULD BE APPLIED TO THE MEN INVOLVED.
MEYERS

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